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Sustainable development

Qatar:* draft resolution

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/193 of 21 December 2001, 57/251 of 20 December 2002 and 58/209 of 23 December 2003,

Taking into account Agenda 21[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[2]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition,

Recalling the need to enhance the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation concerning support for capacity-building in developing countries,

Conscious of the need to ensure that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields remain important components of the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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Noting the ongoing work of the high-level open-ended intergovernmental working group to prepare an intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building,

Recalling its resolutions 57/251 and 58/209, by which Member States were encouraged to submit their comments on the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme before the sixtieth session of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session and the decisions contained therein;[3]

2. *Calls upon* developed countries to positively and meaningfully engage in the negotiations of the intergovernmental strategic plan for technology support and capacity-building, with a view to adopting, at the twenty-third session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, in February 2005, an action-oriented plan with a specific timetable and sufficient resources for its implementation, and requests the relevant United Nations programmes and the Global Environment Facility to cooperate positively in its implementation;

3. *Notes* the differences in the views expressed so far on the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so, the Governing Council and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to submit their comments, in a timely manner, on the issue, in order to contribute to the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly during the sixty-first session;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to contribute, within its mandate and as a member of the inter-agency task force, to the preparations for the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which is to be held in Mauritius, from 10 to 14 January 2005;[4]

5. *Takes note* of the decision of the Governing Council to consider the issue of the location of the secretariat of the Environment Management Group at its twenty-third session in February 2005;[5]

6. *Welcomes* the decision of the Governing Council to discuss at its twenty-third session the issues related to domestic, industrial and hazardous waste management, in particular regarding capacity-building and technology transfer and to consider innovative ways of mobilizing financial resources to support the efforts of developing countries in this area;[6]

7. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/59/25), annex I.

[4] Resolution 57/262.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/59/25), annex I, ss.VIII/1, sect. VI, para. 30.

[6] See ibid., ss.VIII/4.

requests the Secretary-General to consider increased financial allocations to the Environment Programme from the United Nations regular budget;

8. *Invites* Governments in a position to do so to increase their contributions to the Environment Fund to enable the United Nations Environment Programme to discharge its mandate effectively;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Environment Programme and the other United Nations organizations and bodies in Nairobi.